

REMARKS

The Examiner objected to the Specification as failing to provide antecedent basis for the following feature: a tire reversal rotation direction side edge portion which is not chamfered. Accordingly, as suggested by the Examiner, language reciting this feature has been added to the Specification. As correctly asserted by the Examiner, adding this feature does not constitute new matter because this feature is adequately supported in the original Specification in, for example, paragraph [0033] and in Figure 2. In light of this amendment, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 14, 19 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has cancelled Claims 14 and 19, without prejudice, thereby rendering this rejection moot with respect to these claims. However, with respect to Claim 22, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Examiner rejected Claim 22 as being indefinite because the term “second lateral grooves” should actually be the term “first lateral grooves.” Applicant appreciates the Examiner’s helpful suggestion, and Applicant has amended Claim 22 according to the Examiner’s suggestion. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection of Claim 22 is respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner’s indication that Claims 17, 18, 20, 21 and 23 have been allowed, and that Claim 22 would be allowed if amended as indicated above (replacing “second lateral grooves” with “first lateral grooves”). Accordingly, as Claim 22

has been amended as suggested, Applicant respectfully requests an indication of the allowance of this claim also.

Finally, Applicant also added new dependent Claim 24. Because new dependent Claim 24 refers back to allowed independent Claim 17, Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of Claim 24 also.

Thus, since all of the pending claims have been allowed or should be in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that outstanding issues exist, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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